GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3653
ANSWERED ON:12.12.2000
RURAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEMES
JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 1999-2000 has been an exceptionally bad year in term of performance under the rural development schemes;

(b) if so, the facts in this regard and the reasons therefor;

(c) the schemes affected by poor utilisation of funds in various States; and

(d) the steps taken by the Government to ensure the proper and timely utilisation of funds released for rural development schemes and also that the State shall out their share of the cost of various schemes?

Answer

MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU)

(a) & (b) : The physical achievements under the Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY), the Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) and the Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) in 1999-2000 were significantly less than the physical achievements under the corresponding schemes, namely, the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), the Integrated Rural Development Programme(IRDP) and the EAS in 1998-99. The schemes implemented in 1998-99 were restructured and the restructured Schemes of JGSY, SGSY and EAS were launched from 1st April, 1999. The reasons for low performance are as follows :

Jawahar Gram Samridhi Yojana (JGSY) :

The village Panchayats are the implementing agencies of this Scheme. The Scheme was quite new for both the States and Village Panchayats and the short fall in employment generation is attributable to the time required by these agencies for acquainting themselves with the restructured programme.

Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) :

The elaborate procedures involved in launching this holistic Scheme delayed the actual implementation.

Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) :

The pace of employment generation during 1999-2000 was relatively slow owing to factors such as the initial preparatory work and inability to take up new works, till the end of October, 1999 following the announcement of the Lok Sabha elections.

(c) : Utilisation of funds under the three employment generation programmes namely, JGSY, SGSY and EAS was low.

(d) : The Ministry has incorporated the following provisions in the procedure for release of funds to ensure timely utilisation of funds by the States :

i) Funds are released under different programmes to the States in two installments. The second installment of funds is released only when the State/district has utilised 60% of the funds available with it under the programme. This will ensure that the states have released their share.

ii) Audit Reports and Utilisation Certificates are required to be submitted while processing the proposals for release of funds.

iii) Cuts are imposed on the funds to be released to the States, if proposals for second installment are received late after December. If the proposals are received in January, 10% cut on the second installment is effected. If the proposals are received in February, the cut is 20% and if the proposals are received in March, the cut is 30%.

iv) The carry over limit of funds from one year to another has been reduced from 25% during 1998-99 to 20% during 1999-2000. It has further been reduced to 15% w.e.f. 1/4/2000. This is also expected to ensure timely utilisation.